(b) Does not arise.

(c) MMTC has recently agreed to provide incentives for systematic and scientific development of mines and also for increasing the output and procurement of iron ore.

Vacancies of Judges

1006. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of judges are still lying vacant in a number of High Courts;

(b) what is the number of posts of judges filled up by the end of April, 1990; and

(c) what are the details of the steps being taken to fill up the remaining vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) As on 1-5-1990, 87 posts of Judges were lying vacant in various High Courts out of the total sanctioned strength of 463 posts.

(b) Since 1-1-90 till 30th April, 1990, 20 fresh appointments of Judges were made in different High Courts.

(c) Nearly 40 proposals relating to appointment of Judges in the High Courts of Bombay, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Patna, and Punjab & Haryana are in an advanced stage of consultation.

Functioning of regional rural banks in Orissa

1007. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks in Orissa are not functioning satisfactorily;

(b) whether there is a need to revamp the structure and management of the Regional Rural Banks in Orissa; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) There are at present 9 Regional Rural Banks functioning in Orissa covering all the 13 districts in the State. These Regional Rural Banks had 790 branches, mobilised deposits of Rs. 100.51 crores and their outstanding advances stood at Rs. 174.23 crores at the end of June 1988 thus having a credit deposit ratio of 173 per cent as compared to All India figure of 99 per cent. The average business per branch of Regional Rural Banks in Orissa is Rs. 34.80 lakhs as against Rs. 36.00 lakhs per branch for all the Regional Rural Banks taken together.

The financial position of the Regional Rural Banks which are incurring losses is being monitored by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development every quarter and remedial action is suggested to them as well as to their sponsor banks. There is no proposal at present to revamp the structure and management of the Regional Rural Banks in the country including those functioning in the State of Orissa.

High prices of synthetic and Synthetic blended fabrics

1008. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the studies carried out by the Market Survey Reaserch Wing of the Textile Committee there is a high mark up between the ex-mill price of synthetic and synthetic blended fabrics and the retail price of these fabrics;

(b) if so, what exactly is the mark up between the ex-mill prices and the retail prices;

(c) whether this mark up, ranging from 70 to 200 per cent is justified;

(d) whether this is the reason for which no duty concessions granted by Government in respect of PSF, NFY, PFY etc. are reaching the consumer; and

(e) what action Government propoes to take to ensure that such duty concessions which are granted by issuing Notifications in public interest are passed on to the consumers ultimately?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) A pilot survey on the movement of prices of selected varieties of textiles which was conducted during 1979 by Textile Commitee concluded that trade margin differences between ex-mill prices and retail prices in case of selected varieties of synthetic and blended textiles ranged between 40 per cent to 50 per cent in the local market at Bombay. The trade margin in case of up-country centres in the interior and away from production centres was further higher by about 10 per cent. In February, 1990, the percentage difference between ex-mill and retail prices was between 99.2 per cent to 55.1 per cent.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

(d) The concessions given in 1988-89 Budget were not fully passed on to the consumer mainly because of increase in the prices of raw-material which go into the manufacture of these fibres/yarns.

(e) Government Notifications are issued in public interest and in good faith. In order to ensure that benefits of such concessions are passed on to ultimate consumer, periodical review and monitoring of prices etc. is done by the Government.

Payment of customs duty by M/s Bombay Dyeing

1009. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1095 given in the Rajya Sabha in 2nd March, 1989 and state:

(a) whether the Customs, Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal has disposed off the miscellaneous application filed by Government regarding the payment of Customs duty on DMT plant by M/s. Bombay Dyeing;

(b) if so, what are the details there of; and

(c) what further action is contem plated by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Customs, Excise and Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) has finally disposed off the Miscellaneous application and the appeal and has remanded the matter back to Collector of Customs, Bombay for re-adjudication on some points.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, the Collector of Customs, Bombay will be taking further action in the matter in terms of the orders of the CEGAT.

Criterion for Appointment of Solicitors by Public Financial Institutions

1010. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will tre Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criterion for appointment of solicitors by public financial institutions;